

IN THE CLAIMS

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-20 (Canceled)

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): A system comprising:

a communication device; and

an intermediary facility;

wherein text is transmitted from the communication device by a user to a receiver through the intermediary facility for a fee paid by the user, contact information of the receiver is hidden from the communication device, and identification of the user is tracked for a return text communication from the receiver, wherein as a result of at least a portion of the fee paid by the user, the receiver receives a benefit by receiving the text.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The system of claim 21, wherein the intermediary facility is one of a website and a server.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The system of claim 21, wherein the text is transmitted as one of an electronic mail (e-mail) message and physically mailed.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): The system of claim 21, wherein the receiver is one of a famous person and a publicly known person.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented): The system of claim 21, wherein the contact information is one of an address, an e-mail address and an account.

Claim 26 (Currently Amended): The system of claim 21, wherein ~~the receiver receives a benefit by receiving the text, and the benefit is one of a personal benefit and a benefit given to a charity.~~

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): The system of claim 21, wherein the text is transmitted on a network.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): The system of claim 21, where the communication device receives a confirmation of delivery of the text, and the confirmation of delivery is one of text, graphics, and text and graphics.

Claim 29 (Previously Presented): The system of claim 28, wherein the confirmation of delivery is received as one of an e-mail and material delivered as physical mail.

Claim 30 (Previously Presented): The system of claim 21, wherein the fee is one of paid for by a user of the communication device and a sponsor of the intermediary facility, and the fee is paid to one of an account of the intermediary facility, an account of the receiver, and an account of a charitable entity.

Claim 31 (Currently Amended): A method comprising:
connecting a communication device with an intermediary facility;
selecting a receiver to receive text from a user;
transferring a fee paid by the user; and
transmitting the text from the communication device to the receiver through the intermediary facility,
wherein contact information of the receiver is hidden from the communication device, and identification of the user is tracked for a return text communication from the receiver, and wherein as a result of at least a portion of the fee paid by the user, the receiver receives a benefit by receiving the text.

Claim 32 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 31, wherein the fee is transferred from one of a user of the communication device and a sponsor of the intermediary facility, and the fee is paid to one of an account of the intermediary facility, an account of the receiver and an account of a charitable entity.

Claim 33 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 31, wherein the text is transmitted as one of an electronic mail (e-mail) message and transmitted as physical mail to the receiver.

Claim 34 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 31, wherein the receiver is one of a famous person and a publicly known person.

Claim 35 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 31, wherein the contact information is one of an address, an e-mail address and an account.

Claim 36 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 31, ~~further comprising:~~
~~receiving a benefit by the receiver when the text is received,~~
wherein the benefit is one of a personal benefit and a benefit given to a charity.

Claim 37 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 31, wherein the text is transmitted on a network.

Claim 38 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 31, further comprising:
receiving a confirmation of delivery of the text by a user of the communication device,
wherein the confirmation of delivery is one of text, graphics, and text and graphics, and the confirmation of delivery is received as one of an e-mail and material delivered as physical mail.

Claim 39 (Currently Amended): A machine-accessible medium containing instructions that, when executed, cause a machine to:
connect a communication device with an intermediary facility;
transfer a fee from a user; and
transmit text by the user from the communication device to a receiver account through the intermediary facility,

wherein contact information of the receiver is hidden from the device, and identification of the user is tracked for a return text communication from the receiver, wherein as a result of at least a portion of the fee paid by the user, the machine transmits a benefit to the receiver when the text is received.

Claim 40 (Previously Presented): The machine-accessible medium of claim 39, wherein the fee is transferred from one of a user and a sponsor of the intermediary facility, and the fee is paid to one of an account of the intermediary facility, an account of the receiver and an account of a charitable entity.

Claim 41 (Previously Presented): The machine-accessible medium of claim 39, wherein the text is transmitted as an electronic mail (e-mail) message.

Claim 42 (Previously Presented): The machine-accessible medium of claim 39, wherein the receiver account is associated with a receiver, wherein the receiver is one of a famous person and a publicly known person.

Claim 43 (Previously Presented): The machine-accessible medium of claim 39, wherein the contact information is one of an address, an e-mail address and an account of the receiver.

Claim 44 (Currently Amended): The machine-accessible medium of claim 39,
~~further containing instructions that, when executed, cause a machine to:~~
~~transmit a benefit to the receiver when the text is received,~~
wherein the benefit is one of a personal benefit and a benefit given to a charity.

Claim 45 (Previously Presented): The machine-accessible medium of claim 39,
further containing instructions that, when executed, cause a machine to:
transmit a confirmation of delivery of the text from the receiver to a user of the
communication device,

wherein the confirmation of delivery is one of text, graphics, and text and graphics.

Claim 46 (Previously Presented): The machine-accessible medium of claim 45, wherein the confirmation of delivery is one of an e-mail and material delivered as physical mail.